

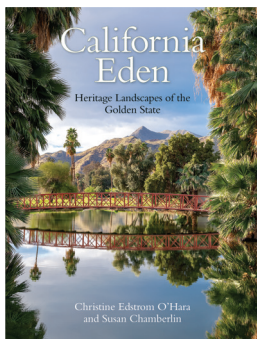
BENCHMARKS

Member news & notes



CALIFORNIA

ASLA Members Co-Edit Book on California's Diverse Landscapes



California Eden: Heritage Landscapes of the Golden State is a collection of updated essays from early issues of *Eden: Journal of the California Garden & Landscape History Society*. We wanted to showcase the diversity of landscapes in California, from private estates to public places and vernacular landscapes. The book is full of unexpected treasures—the owner of the historic Green Gables estate

shared previously unpublished landscape drawings by architect Charles Sumner Greene. One accompanies David C. Streatfield's article on Green Gables. For "Japanese Gardens, American Gardeners in San Diego County," we updated the story of farmers interned during World War II with powerful new images.

► BY CO-EDITORS **CHRISTINE EDSTROM O'HARA**, ASLA, A PROFESSOR OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AT CAL POLY, AND **SUSAN CHAMBERLIN**, ASLA, A LANDSCAPE HISTORIAN AND LICENSED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

WHAT'S NEW?

We want to shine a light on what's happening in your corner of the ASLA world. Send us your news!



COLORADO

Denver's Prairie Revival

The City and County of Denver Department of Parks and Recreation is in the process of converting roughly 90 acres of Kentucky bluegrass to native shortgrass prairie. Our long-term goal is to replace all nonfunctional bluegrass within our park system, conserving water and improving plant resilience and adaptation, biodiversity, equitable access to nature, soil health, and urban heat island mitigation.

Our projects are having a significant impact—at the city and county building, a demonstration garden of native grasses and wildflowers will replace a decades-old turf lawn, reducing water use in that area from 1.2 million to 670,000 gallons a year. We also replaced 10 acres of bluegrass covering four roadway medians conserving more than 8.5 million gallons of water annually. And the transformation of 9.5 acres of bluegrass to native prairie at two local parks will save approximately 3 million gallons of water annually.

► BY **BRANDON HERMAN**, ASLA, SENIOR URBAN ECOLOGY PLANNER, CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION